

CLAIMS

1. A DNA fragment containing the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 as a core sequence, whereby expression of a gene placed downstream of said DNA fragment is repressed in the presence of light.
2. The DNA fragment of Claim 1 which is a cis-element containing the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or a nucleotide sequence obtained by deletion, substitution and/or addition of one or more bases in a part of the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 other than the core sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, whereby expression of a gene placed downstream of said DNA fragment is repressed in the presence of light.
3. The DNA fragment of Claim 1 comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3.
4. A promoter containing the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1 as a core sequence, whereby expression of a gene placed downstream of said promoter is promoted in the dark but repressed in the presence of light.
5. The promoter of Claim 4 containing the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or a nucleotide sequence obtained by deletion, substitution and/or addition of one or more bases in a part of the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 other than the core sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.
6. The promoter of Claim 4 comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3.
7. The DNA fragment of any one of Claims 1 to 3 having a constitutive expression promoter sequence linked downstream of said DNA fragment.

8. The promoter of any one of Claims 4 to 6 having a constitutive expression promoter linked downstream of said promoter.
9. The DNA fragment of Claim 7 wherein the constitutive expression promoter is cauliflower mosaic virus 35S promoter.
10. The promoter of Claim 8 wherein the constitutive expression promoter is the cauliflower mosaic virus 35S promoter.
11. An expression cassette comprising a DNA fragment carrying a gene linked downstream of the DNA fragment or promoter of any one of Claims 1 to 10, whereby expression of said gene is repressed by light.
12. A plant cell transformed with the expression cassette of Claim 11 or a DNA fragment containing said cassette.
13. A plant transformed with the DNA fragment of Claim 11 or a progeny thereof, and a part of said plant or progeny.